

MARIETTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

240 LEMON STREET, MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30060-1688



Policing with a Vision

Chief Dan Flynn



PHONE (770) 794-5300

Public Information Officer – Officer David Baldwin

770-794-5370 (office) 770-235-1915 (cell)

******* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*******

Marietta Police Host School Security Conference

In view of the tragic shootings in Newtown Ct., parents everywhere are asking: “are my children safe in school?” While most know the attacks in Newtown were not due to any failure in school security, they do know the world is increasingly dangerous and the security of children in school is a greater concern than ever before.

Today, the Marietta Police Department hosted a conference with police staff including School Resource Officers and representatives responsible for the security of the Marietta School System, Walker School, St. Joseph Catholic School and Mount Paran Christian School. This conference was a collaborative effort to ensure that school security policies, plans, infrastructure, and emergency communications protocols at public and private schools in Marietta are current.

The two-hour conference included a systemic review of confidential security systems, security plans, and school emergency plans. The following new commitments are designed to enhance school security:

1. The MPD will provide officers certified in a law enforcement process entitled Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design to conduct thorough security assessments upon request to any school in Marietta.
2. Beginning in 2013, police and school administrators will meet to review and discuss security policies and procedures prior to each new school year.
3. School security administrators and MPD will collaborate to enhance all manners of verbal and cyber non-emergency and emergency communications between schools and police.

4. School security administrators and MPD will consider expanding the MPD Text-a-Cop program, which is presently only in place at Marietta High School, to additional public and private schools in Marietta.

5. School security administrators and MPD will work together to plan additional tactical emergency training exercises in 2013.

Everyone in attendance at today's meeting recommitted to the goal of making Marietta's schools as safe as they can possibly be.

###